

# Springfield Cornerstone

**MARCH, 2019**



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<div style="background-color: #00b050; color: white; padding: 5px; border: 1px solid black;"> <b>Every Sunday morning 9:30 am Sunday school 10:30 am Worship Service</b> </div>					1	2
3 2 Cent Meal offering 2 pm bowling	4	5 Bible Study, 6-7 pm	6 Ladies Bible Study, Ash Wed. Service 7 pm	7 Choir Practice, 7 pm	8	9
10 Daylight Savings Time-Bowling; Lenten service, Reading 7 pm	11	12 Bible Study, 6-7 pm Commissions & Executive Comm Mtg, 7 pm	13 Ladies Bible Study, 10 am	14 Choir Practice, 7 pm	15	16 Nikki Hornish Baby Shower, 2 pm
17 St. Patrick's Day! Bowling-Lenten Service—Center	18	19 Bible Study, 6-7 pm	20 Ladies Bible Study, 10 am	21 Choir Practice, 7 pm	22	23 Sr. High Leadership, camp
24 Bible Challenge; Crockpot Fundraiser Lenten service—Eden, 7 pm	25	26 Bible Study, 6-7 pm	27 Ladies Bible Study, 10 am	28 Choir Practice, 7 pm	29	30 Candy Making 9-1
31 Lenten service—Akron 1st, 7 pm	<div style="background-color: #00b050; color: white; padding: 10px; border: 1px solid black;"> <b>MISSION STATEMENT: “Following Jesus for the glory of God and our neighbors good”</b> </div>					



**Bible Study**

**Bible Study** Bible study meets Tuesday evenings from 6-7 pm in the room next to the kitchen. Everyone invited. Contact Becky Burtoft for more info.

**Ladies Bible Study** The ladies study group meets for Bible Study on Wednesdays at 10 am. All women are welcome.

**Choir Practice is on** Thursday evenings at 7 pm. All are invited to attend.

**Elyssa Kline** Christine Kline is placing a card on the back table each week for words of encouragement or just to say “Hello” for Elyssa Kline , our BVSer serving in N. Ireland.



**Bowling** is winding down with a few more weeks in March.

**Disaster Ministries** – We have volunteers planning to travel to South Carolina the week of March 10-16. If you would be available to volunteer with them, please reply to Alan Griffiths at griff2x@sssnet.com. Thank you!

**Flower Calendar** The new flower calendar for 2019 is on the bulletin board. Please take a moment and sign up for altar flowers to honor or remember loved ones.



Daylight Savings Time begins Sunday, March 10th.

Remember to set your clocks ahead on this date.

**Commission Meetings**  
Tuesday, March 12, 7 pm

**Executive Committee Meeting**  
Tuesday, March 12, 7:40 pm



**Bible Challenge** This year’s Bible Challenge will take place during the Sunday school hours, Sunday, March 24th in the Fellowship Hall.

**Crockpot Cook-off Fundraiser**

This fundraiser sponsored by the Christian Education Commission will be Sunday, March 24th immediately following worship. Monies from this fundraiser will go to support our children going to summer camp.

**Calling all Graduates** Please let the Christian Education Commission know before May of anyone in your family graduating this year. We will need the name of the person, school graduating from and the degree the person is receiving.

**Daily Devotions**



**Upper Room Devotional**

Are you looking for a daily devotional? Every other month, a new copy of the Upper Room publication is available to you—free! Copies of the March-April issue are beside the main entrance and there are large print copies, too. Please help yourself!

**Easter Candy and Flowers**

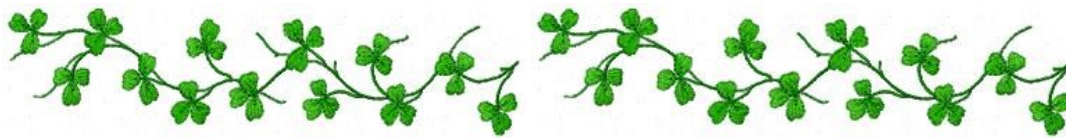
Candy making: youth will be making candy, Saturdays, March 30 and April 6 from 9 am—1 pm. Candy will be sold on Sundays, April 7 and 14th.



This year we will be buying daffodils for our Easter flowers. Order forms will be available later in the month.



**Ash Wednesday service** – this year we will be having an Ash Wednesday service on March 6<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm.



## Lent 2019



The area wide Church of the Brethren congregations meet to observe the season of Lent. Refreshments following each service. Services begin at 7 pm Sunday evenings.

Date	Location	Speaker /Pastor	Title/Scripture
March 10	Reading	Jim Lee, E. Nimishillen	Be Holy as is God Lev: 19:1-2, 11-18; Matt; 25:31-46
March 17	Center	Mike Zellers, Freeburg	Prayer Nourishes Us Isaiah 55: 10-11; Matt. 6: 7-15
March 24	Eden	George O'Reilly, Springfield	Trust Fully in God Esther 4:12, 14-16, 23-25; Matt:7: 7-12
March 31	Akron 1st	Paul Bozman, Eastwood	Return to the Lord Ezekiel 18: 21-28, Matt 5: 20-26
April 7	Springfield	Festival of Choirs	Look to Higher Realms



Dear friends of Springfield CoB, Thank you for your generous support of the N. Ohio District Ministries through your donation of \$500. Your generosity helps provide ministries for our churches and pastors...and we are so very grateful. Love in Christ, Kris Hawk, on behalf of the District Board.

Dear Springfield Church, We would like to thank you for generously giving to Inspiration Hills. We appreciate your support and prayers. Thank you for your donation of \$130.00. Blessings! Shannon Kahler and Staff.

**Invitation:** Nikki Conner Hornish will be honored at a Church Baby Shower to be held on March 16th at 2:00 pm. All are invited!

**New Addresses:** **Sondra Grund** is still at the Stow Glen Retirement Village but in a different room, AL#201, 4285 Kent Road, Stow, OH 44224. Her phone remains the same: 330-819-1101.

**Rose Hyre:** St. Luke Lutheran Community, 615 Lat-ham Lane, #413, Akron, OH 44319 330-436-5937



### ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

One Great Hour of Sharing for our church will be one or two Sundays during March (dates forthcoming) This is an opportunity to make a contribution to support this offering that the Church of the Brethren and eight other denominations work towards in order to support ministries including Brethren Disaster Ministries, Global Food Crisis Fund and others. You may use the special envelopes available, or mark your offering "One Great Hour of Sharing". Thank you.



### Healthy Congregations Workshop

Interested in attending the Healthy Congregations workshop offered by the district - April 12-13? Contact Kim Morckel by Sunday, March 17 and we can register together to possibly get the discount and make plans to carpool, too. All the details can be found in the Herald publication.



### Bringing back ...

#### Dinner for Eight.....



The Women's Bible Study are planning on organizing a 'Dinner for Eight' program where eight people meet once a quarter in one other's home. Different groups will meet each time, thus getting to know others from our church family in a home-like setting.

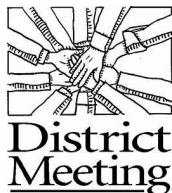
### Conferences



Annual Conference will be July 3-7 in Greensboro, NC at the Sheraton/Koury Convention Center. Glen Grunder is our

delegate to this conference with Mike Conner as our alternate. Theme: Proclaim Christ; Reclaim Passion.”

District Conference will be August 2-3 at the Mohican Church of the Brethren in West Salem, OH The moderator will be Doug Price.



NOAC: National Older Adult Conference will be September 2-6, 2019 at Lake Junaluska, North Carolina

## Sisters' Spring Retreat

April 26-27, 2019

Camp Inspiration Hills, Cost \$15.



These couples can be either married couples or single people who will be paired with another single person for the year. Examples from our Bible study could be Bev Sheets and Faye Reed - Avenell Cippant and Josie Matulis, or any other combination of people.

The Host couple for a quarter will contact the others in their group to set a date and location for the dinner – either in their home or if space is limited they could meet at church. The host couple for the quarter will provide meat and beverage and check with the others as to who would bring salad, vegetable or dessert.

### March Madness

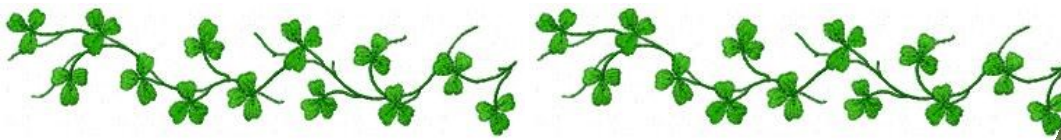
Do you enjoy playing basketball? Are you a man between the ages of 18-118? If you answered yes to both of these questions join us March 5th at Mt. Pleasant Church of the Brethren.

Men's basketball open gym for any man between the ages of 18-118. Join us for some fun exercise and worship.

We will be playing every Tuesday night in March from 7-8:30 pm.

Starting March 5th at Mt. Pleasant Church of the Brethren--- 4152 Mt. Pleasant Street NW, North Canton, Ohio 44720





## Darkness and Light

In what seems at times like another life, a gospel group of which I was a part, sang a song with some lyrics like this: “Don’t try to drive the darkness out, you just turn on the light.” Such lyrics engage the mysteries of just how being an obedient disciple comes to maturity in the life of a normal believer.

Biblically oriented Christian believers become aware of personal spiritual struggle, they take seriously the call to abandon certain personal and communal behaviors and to practice and pursue other behaviors, and they often experience some uncertainty about just how these two dynamics are best addressed in daily living.

Perhaps understanding this as revolving around the question of how our pursuit of purity or maturity relates to personal responsibility and reliance on spiritual power from above might focus the realities for us. We know that embracing Jesus is said to deliver us from spiritual bondage. We know that we have been given the resurrection life Jesus has in and of himself through the Spirit. We recognize from various Scriptures that being Free in Christ not only gives us freedom to choose spiritual growth, but also calls us to choose again and again between patterns tied to the past and patterns bestowed toward our future. But we remain in this fallen era awaiting the fulfillment of our future hope. We are assured of our future completion, “but we ain’t quite there yet.”

In congregations as fellowships of believers committed to living out the gospel freedoms so graciously given to us, we are to discern together how to live into the future while living in the present. This discernment brings us to face just how much of this is up to us, and how much of this must be left to the Spirit’s empowering presence in us individually and between us corporately. Many books and sermons relate to this kind of question.

Perhaps we do best recall that what Jesus has declared he came to deliver was “life in abundance.” We must see this as a dynamic process in our everyday living. So we cannot simply find a list in a book and follow that, since the list will address every question encountered in the complexities of our daily lives. We certainly cannot ignore personal responsibility, but we cannot simply become “new legalists” in our approach to spirituality.

Whatever the composer’s intention with the lyrics mentioned earlier, the best pattern I can discern from them is this: “In this at times rather frustrating reality of ‘spiritual living’, we do well to ask ourselves ‘Which way are we facing?’ ”

Are we facing these questions without proper regard of what we can learn from principles of our present and historical faith? Have we turned so much to principles from the past that we now have a “static faith” without the resilience of true life which enables engaging new perplexities? How can we be principled without being legalistic? Perhaps these lyrics suggest we mix these things together by first turning in the right direction.

We ask in faith each time some perplexity comes up, “Lord Jesus by your Spirit grant us power and wisdom to live into new life by our best choices coming out of our freedom to live in your Spirit.” Then we move ahead. We exercise personal and corporate choice with a mind to the past but with a choice to face the assured fulfillment of our future.

Paul writes, “For through the Spirit, by faith, we eagerly wait for the hope of righteousness.” (*Galatians 5:5*) We engage the reality of this age between the resurrection and the return of Jesus as free believers delivered into life in the Spirit. If this seems confusing to us at times, we are in good company—the company of the People of God through the ages. If we want so very much for this to be easier, we do well to acknowledge that it someday will be—but not yet! We are still called to live in the middle.



# Lent 2019: Blessed Hunger, Holy Feast

## Introduction

Throughout the Scriptures for this Lenten season, a theme of human emptiness recurs in contrast to the satisfaction and fulfillment God longs to provide for us. God’s people are portrayed enduring difficult times—hungry and thirsty, often lost and away from the safety of home. At the same time, God’s people find their most basic needs met in God’s abundance—they find their needs fulfilled by means of a feast that only God can provide! “Blessed hunger, holy feast” articulates the truth found in these passages of Scripture.

### Confession is a key element of the season of Lent.

These worship resources make confession the high point of the worship service. Worshipers are encouraged to broaden their understanding of confession—to see it as much more than simply telling God how they’ve messed up. This worship series “deliberately [blurs] the definition of confession to include both confession of faith in God and confession to God of who we are in that relationship as well as in our relationships with others and our world.” The act of confession warrants our primary attention in the season of Lent. While it might feel strange to engage in an hour of worship without first clearing the air between us and God (as our confession typically does), we are encouraged to see all the elements of the service—even the sermon—as creating a fitting context for the ritual of confession and reconciliation that happens near the end of each Sunday’s Lenten service.

**March 10** — Lent 1: God’s hand delivers us

#### Focus statement

When we enter the wilderness of wandering and temptation, God’s hand delivers us. We confess our trust in a saving God

#### Scripture

Deuteronomy 26:1-11; Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16; Romans 10:8b-13; Luke 4:1-13

Source: Leader Magazine, Worship Resources, pgs. 36-50



**March 17** — Lent 2: God gathers us together in safe shelter

#### Focus statement

When dark fear overwhelms us, God gathers us together in safe shelter. We seek the light of God’s face.

#### Scripture

Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18; Psalm 27; Philippians 3:17-4.1; Luke 13:31-35

**March 24** —Lent 3: God pours out life-giving drink

#### Focus statement

When we become empty and weary from things that do not satisfy, God pours out life-giving drink. We turn from destruction to God’s grace.

#### Scripture

Isaiah 55:1-9; Psalm 63:1-8; 1 Corinthians 10:1-13; Luke 13:1-9

**March 31** — Lent 4: God reaches out with open arms

#### Focus statement

When we are lost and far from God, God reaches out with open arms. We get up and enter the feast of reconciliation.

#### Scripture

Joshua 5:9-12; Psalm 32; 2 Corinthians 5:16-21; Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

**April 7** — Lent 5: God makes a way through mighty waters

#### Focus statement

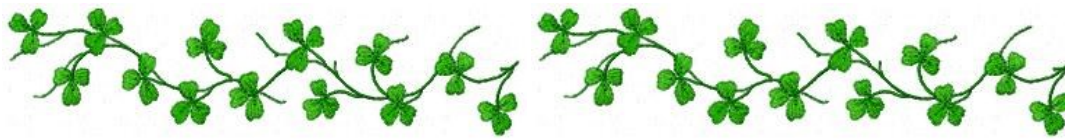
When we are exhausted, God makes a way through mighty waters. We move forward in hope as God does a new thing.

#### Scripture

Isaiah 43:16-21; Psalm 126; Philippians 3:4b-14; John 12:1-8

**April 14** — Lent 6, Palm Sunday: God’s steadfast love endures forever

Scripture Luke 19:28-40; Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29; Isaiah 50:4-9a; Philippians 2:5-11



## Executive Committee Meeting Summary from February 12th

**Pastor's Report** — none

**Treasurer** — all is fine.

**Christian Education:** Date of pancake breakfast has been changed to May 4th.

**Fellowship:** no report

**Finance:** Discussed Memorial Funds, the Foundation Fund, the Emergency Fund, and the Flower Fund. Asked about the coordination of wedding activities. The Brown Book with a list of membership needs updating. Doug Kline will present a tax deductions seminar in the near future, perhaps after church. The choir music on tapes needs to be transferred to CD's.

**Music and Worship:** Discussed the sound system and what is being done about acquiring a new sound system. Will go into negotiations with one company to do work. We will have an Ash Wednesday Service March 6th at 7 pm.

The Lenten service plans are underway. The Love Feast will be April 18. Easter Sunrise service will be in the garden by the church. Times for this service and for breakfast will be forthcoming. Daffodils will be purchased for Easter flowers this year. Chocolates will be given for Mothers and Fathers Day recognition gifts.

**Fellowship & Recreation** — no report

**Trustees:** A new circulating pump was put on the boiler.

**Witness:** will meet after church.

**Deacons**—Care groups formed. Letters mailed out by each care group deacon.

**Old business:** interviewing candidates for pastor position. Discussed format for new bulletins beginning in March. Decided on 8 -1/2 X 11 size with picture of church on front.

**New Business:** Healthy Congregation workshop in April—people from congregation going—Kim is coordinator.

**Cherry Lodge Deck** — construction is in the final stages. Camp has more volunteer opportunities (work on deck, tiling, painting, etc.) on projects to be completed before camp starts. Call Dale Allen at 330-621-4574.

### Water Street Building Sold

The Water Street CoB in Kent ceased meeting in the early 2016 and the delegates approved the closing of the church at the 2016 District Conference. The District Board made the decision to sell the building/parsonage/property and the sale closed in October of 2018. On the recommendation of the Stewardship and Finance Commission, the District Board approved the use of funds from the sale. All remaining funds are designated for a new church improvement loan fund estimated at \$335,000. It provides 0% loans to churches for improvements and repairs to their main ministry property.

### A Day of Service and Fun for District Youth

All Junior and Senior Hi Youth—come on Sat. April 13th for a day of work and fun at camp. 9 am beginning with hot drinks and doughnuts and ending at 6 pm following a bonfire cook-out. Free. All meals provided. Bring work clothes, boots, gloves, etc.

**Summer Camp** The summer camp schedule is out! This summer camp will dig deeper into how the peace of Christ can help us survive this crazy world and find real peace in our



lives. Disconnect, worship God, study the Bible, sing songs of praise, explore nature, find great friends, and experience the peace of Christ! Sign up now for summer camp 2019; this is a summer that you do not want to miss! Deadline for early registration is April 15th.



## Springfield Church of the Brethren

3500 Albrecht Avenue, Akron, OH 44312 (330) 628-3058

Church email: [Springfieldcob@sbcglobal.net](mailto:Springfieldcob@sbcglobal.net)

Church web address: [Springfield-cob.com](http://Springfield-cob.com)



*Continuing the work of Jesus.  
Peacefully. Simply. Together.*



### We Invite You

- to join with us in the fellowship of a Christian family.
- to join us in our journey to a deeper faith in our Lord Jesus
- to strive with us to "Live for the Glory of God and our neighbor's good."



Interim Pastor: George O'Reilly  
Phone: 402-619-7099  
Email: [pastorgeorgeoreilly@gmail.com](mailto:pastorgeorgeoreilly@gmail.com)

Church Secretary: Beckie Ebie  
Church Office: 330/628-3058  
email: [Springfieldcob@sbcglobal.net](mailto:Springfieldcob@sbcglobal.net)

**Sunday Hours  
of Worship:**  
Sunday School, 9:30 am  
Worship, 10:30 am